

**Issue Specific Hearing
Landscape / seascape and visual impact
The Brighton Centre Syndicate Wing
31 October 2013**

Agenda

1. Chair's introduction

2. Draft DCO Version 4

Update on proposed amendments to the provisions of the draft DCO relevant to landscape / seascape and visual impact, drafted subsequently to the DCO hearing held on 28 / 29 August 2013.

Attendees need to ensure they bring copies of the following Development Consent Order documents:

- i) Comparison between Version 1 (March 2013) and Version 4 (October ¹2013) of the Development Consent Order.
- ii) Schedule of Changes to the draft DCO Version 3 October 2013

3. Planning obligations and Planning Performance Agreements

Progress on the two draft Planning Performance Agreements (PPA) and the legal agreements under s106 Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as amended by the Planning Act 2008, currently under discussion with South Downs National Park Authority and West Sussex County Council. This to include clarification of contents of all agreements.

If the PPAs are to be relied upon by the ExA, they will need to be contractually binding. Whether a mechanism has been agreed for securing and guaranteeing the PPAs and what that mechanism is.

If parties wish to have the PPA and s106 agreements taken into account by the ExA, then these matters must be brought into the examination in a timely way. This is to enable the ExA to assess whether they meet the relevant tests as set out in NPS EN-1 paragraph 4.1.8 and to enable representations to be made by other parties if they so choose. Whether progress has been made in respect of these matters.

¹ Incorrectly entitled "Comparison between Version 1 (March 2013) and Version 4 (March 2013) of the development consent order" as submitted by the applicant

4. Flexibility in the project details

Whether the assessment in the ES of the layout of the largest number of smaller turbines represents the worst case scenario. Consideration of additional illustrative material of a smaller number of larger turbines to illustrate the effects of this type of layout from certain, agreed viewpoints.

Consideration of how the applicant could demonstrate due regard to having taken measures to avoid, reduce or compensate for any adverse visual effects of the proposal on certain receptors, at the detailed design stage of the offshore array and onshore substation and whether design parameters in the DCO ensure this objective can be met.

This to include consideration of how the onshore substation design is placed in the local landscape, taking account of such things as local topography and the possibility of screening from mature hedgerow and trees.

Clarification of the extent to which landscape mitigation proposals have been agreed and consideration of how these matters are secured in the DCO.

5. South Downs National Park (including the Heritage Coast)

Whether the proposed project has met the statutory 'duty to have regard' to the designation objectives of the National Park and whether the proposals meet the requirements of the National Policy Statements EN-1, EN-3 and EN-5 including good design and landscape / seascape impact mitigation.

Progress arising from the meeting on 17 October between E.ON and SDNPA on matters relating to the draft Ecology and Landscape Management Plan, draft Hedgerow Management Plan and draft Archaeology Management Plan.

The adequacy of the revised outline Written Scheme of Archaeological Investigation and whether archaeology and cultural heritage matters have been adequately assessed.

6. Lighting

Consideration of whether the ES has adequately assessed the visibility and conspicuousness of the project during construction and operation and the potential impact on views and visual amenity with specific reference to light pollution effects on local amenity and nature conservation.

Consideration of whether navigation and aviation lighting would be visible from the Heritage Coast, National Park and shoreline more generally.

7. Arboriculture

The adequacy of the draft outline arboricultural method statement and whether arboriculture has been adequately addressed.

8. Any other business